

Patent Application Serial No.: 10/643,831
Amendment and Response to Office Action mailed March 14, 2005
Page 7

REMARKS

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-4, 6-23, and 25-31 are pending in the present application. In the Office Action mailed March 14, 2005, claims 1-4, 6-23, and 25-31 were rejected. Claims 1, 8, 22, and 27 are amended hereby. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

II. RECORD OF INTERVIEW

The undersigned would like to thank Examiner Nguyen for her helpful comments and suggestions during the telephonic interview conducted on May 25, 2005.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.133(b), the following description is submitted as a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action. The following statement is intended to comply with the requirements of MPEP § 713.04 and expressly sets forth: (A) a brief description of the nature any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted; (B) identification of the claims discussed; (C) identification of specific prior art discussed; (D) identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed; (E) the general thrust of the principal arguments; and (F) a general indication of any other pertinent matters; and (G) the general results or outcome of the interview, if appropriate.

- (A) No exhibits were shown or demonstrations conducted.
- (B) The pending claims were discussed generally.
- (C) U.S. Patent No. 6,481,356 to *Gualandi* was discussed.
- (D) Various proposed amendments were discussed.
- (E) The general thrust of the discussion was whether U.S. Patent No. 6,481,356 to *Gualandi* discloses the claimed invention.
- (F) No other pertinent matters were discussed.
- (G) It was agreed that a response would be submitted for Examiner Nguyen's consideration.

Patent Application Serial No.: 10/643,891
Amendment and Response to Office Action mailed March 14, 2005
Page 8

In the event that the foregoing record is not considered complete and accurate, the Examiner respectfully is requested to bring any incompleteness or inaccuracy to the attention of the undersigned.

III. CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claims 1-4, 6-23 and 25-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over various combinations of U.S. Patent No. 6,481,356 to *Gualandi*, U.S. Patent No. 4,939,997 to *Hoffman*, U.S. Patent No. 5,263,418 to *Dippold et al.*, and U.S. Patent No. 5,361,701 to *Stevens*.

Claims 1, 8, 22, and 27 are amended hereby. It is submitted respectfully that the various rejections now are obviated and should be withdrawn.

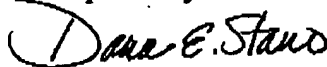
Patent Application Serial No.: 10/643,891
Amendment and Response to Office Action mailed March 14, 2005
Page 9

CONCLUSION

The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action mailed March 14, 2005, and is believed to place all claims in the application in condition for allowance. Such action is courteously solicited.

If the Examiner believes that there are any issues that can be resolved by telephone conference, or if there are any informalities that may be addressed by an Examiner's amendment, please contact the undersigned at (404) 879-2437.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: May 26, 2005

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PAGE 10/10 * RCVD AT 5/26/2005 2:58:40 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFAX-1/0 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID: * DURATION (mm-ss):03-02

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